

# Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury

**REAL WARRIORS.**



**REAL BATTLES.**



**REAL STRENGTH.**



DEFENSE CENTERS  
OF EXCELLENCE

For Psychological Health  
& Traumatic Brain Injury

## *DoD Task Force Meeting*

**Resilience • Recovery • Reintegration**

[www.dcoe.health.mil](http://www.dcoe.health.mil)



# SPARRC

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## Suicide Prevention and Risk Reduction Committee (SPARRC)

- SPARRC is a forum for developing/expanding partnerships
- Committee's goal is to improve policies, programs and systems across DoD
- Group provides support for medical, line, and community leaders
- SPARRC includes representatives from all Services, VA, SAMHSA, CDC, Medical Examiners, Chaplains, Telehealth/Technology and National Guard/Reserves



# 2009 SPARRC Projects

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- RAND Research Project
- 2010 DoD/VA Suicide Prevention Conference
- DoD Suicide Prevention Task Force
- SPARRC Website
- DoD/VA New Initiatives



# RAND

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*Objective: Review and catalog suicide prevention activities*

- Collect information on effectiveness of suicide prevention programs in military and civilian populations
- Examine existing DoD suicide prevention programs
- Review data analyses from DoD database sources
- Develop recommendations DoD can use to enhance suicide prevention activities



# DoD/VA Suicide Prevention Conference

## DoD/VA 2010 Suicide Prevention Conference: *Building Strong and Resilient Communities*

- Expand knowledge of suicide prevention and leadership training to quickly identify and support service members in distress
- Offer four focused tracks: clinical intervention, multi-disciplinary, practical applications/tools and research
- Share stories about the struggles and triumphs in dealing with suicide issues
- Provide a collaborative forum to discuss all prevention and risk-reduction activities, policies and best practices

**January 10-14, 2010**

**Hyatt Regency Washington (D.C. – Capitol Hill)**

**To register, please visit:**

**<https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=6885>**



# SPARRC Website

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- The purpose of a SPARRC website is to:
  - Create a “clearinghouse” for suicide prevention information, contacts, innovative approaches and tools
  - Create a joint, collaborative space for active duty and veterans
  - More fully utilize the benefits of current and future web technologies
- Three Project Phases
  - Coordinating resources
  - Building in social networking capabilities, such as forums
  - Adding depth of resources and capabilities
- Goal: Coordinate existing sites/resources and expanding their audiences





# New Initiatives

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- DoD has developed a Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI), which is now being routed for approval(s)
- VA and DoD have formed a Suicide Nomenclature Working Group to create a common lexicon
- DoD is in the process of identifying items from VA Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan for future collaborations



# Questions

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## Contact Information

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